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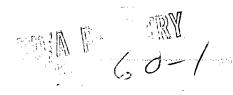
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SPECIAL NOTICE TO ORDERING ACTIVITIES



LEAD FOUND IN WATER FOUNTAINS EXCEEDS FEDERAL DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

In June 1986, the Safe Drinking Water Act was amended to ban the use of: (1) solder or flux containing more than 0.2% lead and (2) pipes or other fixtures containing more than 8% lead in any plumbing used for drinking water. In particular, lead solder (historically containing up to 50% lead) less than 5 years old can leach into drinking water in high concentrations.......

Earlier this year, the Environmental Protection Agency found that eight water coolers manufactured during the 1950's and 1960's by Halsey Taylor, a leading manufacturer in the industry, contain water storage tanks with a lead lining. Coolers with lead lined tanks can contribute high levels of lead to drinking water, and water from one cooler was found to exceed Federal drinking water standards for lead by 40 times. So far, at least one cooler of each of the following model numbers has been found to contain a lead lining: WT 8 A, GC10ARC and GC 10 A. Other models manufactured by Halsey Taylor between 1978 and the end of 1987 that contain lead solder include: WMA-1, SWA-1, S3/5/10 C&D, S300/500/1000D, SCWT/SCWT-A, DC/DHC-1, HWC7/HWC7-D, BFC-4F/7F/7FS, 5656 FTN, 5800 FTN, and 8880 FTN.

In the past, Halsey Taylor has had contracts with the GSA for coolers, with products located in many Federal offices. The most recent contract was for approximately two years ending in December of 1987. National Stock Numbers for the coolers supplied by Halsey Taylor under that contract are 4110-00-255-8760 and 4110-00-782-5125. Halsey Taylor coolers which are in GSA stock have been placed on hold pending further review and the outcome of the discussion between Halsey Taylor, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and others. The CPSC is investigating the need for a recall. A new contract has been awarded to Elkay and lead-free water coolers are in stock and available for shipment.

Other companies made coolers containing lead, but stopped this practice before 1986. These companies include EBCO (whose products are also marketed under the name "Oasis") and Sunroc. One major supplier, Elkay Manufacturing Company, who sells coolers under the names "Temprite" and "Cordley" reported never having used lead in their products. In addition, the Filtrine Manufacturing Company, a smaller supplier, also reported never having used any lead in any of their coolers.

As an additional measure, Federal activities may wish to test outlets used to obtain water for drinking or cooking (including faucets in restrooms used to fill coffee pots) using a protocol developed by the Environmental Protection Agency. This protocol can help you identify whether any particular outlet is dispensing water containing too much lead, and if so, what the source of the lead may be. To obtain a copy of the protocol, write to Peter Lassovszky, Office of Drinking Water WH-550, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW, Washington D.C. 20460.

GSA will issue further bulletins on this subject as details are made available.

Point of contact: Scott Wallis, FTS 557-8451 or COM (703) 557-8451

Logs- 20-12

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Got A Problem? Need Help?

In each region our Customer Service Officers (CSOs) stand ready to help you resolve your supply problems, explain the many GSA/FSS programs designed to save you time and money, and assist you in obtaining necessary service. They are as near as your phone and ready to support your needs. For your convenience, their numbers are listed below.

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